



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Minnesota, the state's largest advocacy organization, seeks to improve the lives of children and adults living with mental illness and their families through providing education, support, and advocacy; and
- WHEREAS: The seeds of the organization were planted in 1976 when a small group of advocates challenged state policy to close Hastings State Hospital without allocating any funds to develop community mental health services; and
- WHEREAS: The "Kitchen Table" Coalition developed a mental health pilot program, Sharing Life in the Community (SLIC), and organized a constituency of sufficient size and strength which resulted in the Minnesota State Legislature providing funding; and
- WHEREAS: The same group of advocates originated Minnesota's first self-help family support group called, Families of the Emotionally Disturbed United for Progress (FED-UP); and
- WHEREAS: It formally organized in 1977 as the Mental Health Advocates Coalition of Minnesota, later joining with others to found the National Alliance on Mental Illness; and
- WHEREAS: NAMI Minnesota is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 6, 2017; and
- WHEREAS: By carrying out its mission, it has increased the public and professional understanding of mental illness, confronted discrimination, provided leadership in building our state's mental health system, and provided hope to countless individuals and their families; and
- WHEREAS: NAMI Minnesota, in celebration of its anniversary, has visited 40 cities across the state to document 40 stories of its founders and leaders; and
- WHEREAS: NAMI Minnesota continues to work statewide to organize volunteers through its local affiliates to carry out education classes, lead support groups, advocate for desperately needed community mental health services, and is a voice for change.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 6, 2017, as:

## NAMI MINNESOTA DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



*Steve Pinnon*

SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April.

*Mark Dayton*  
GOVERNOR